



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 3621  
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

December 5, 2013

In reply refer to: KEC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration intends to fund the purchase of three properties in Okanogan County, Wash. They include the 13-acre Aeneas Creek Spring, the 5-acre Ninemile Creek Lower and the 120-acre Wanacut Creek Upper properties. When the purchases are complete, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation will own and manage the property for fish and wildlife conservation purposes and BPA will receive a conservation easement to ensure that the habitat values on the property are always protected. BPA is sending this letter to inform nearby residents and other interested parties of this land purchase.

The funding will be provided as part of BPA's ongoing efforts to protect, restore and enhance habitat for Upper Columbia steelhead as mitigation for the construction and operation of the dams in the Columbia River Basin, and would satisfy some of BPA's requirements identified in the National Marine Fisheries Service 2008 Biological Opinion that guides the protection of salmon and steelhead listed under the federal Endangered Species Act.

Enclosed you will find four maps detailing these land transactions. BPA has prepared a memo and environmental checklist documenting that no further environmental review of these funding actions are required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This documentation, known as a categorical exclusion, was approved on November 26, 2013, and is posted on BPA's website at: [http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/categoricalexclusions.aspx](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/categoricalexclusions.aspx).

The CCT will provide long-term stewardship for the land and will develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of habitat on the property. The CCT will provide the opportunity for the public to review and comment on the draft plan. BPA will review the plan and must approve it before it is implemented. Management actions may include fencing repair or construction to protect the land from livestock grazing. If BPA proposes to fund any of these activities, we will conduct additional environmental review under NEPA and other statutes as appropriate.

If you have any questions regarding this land purchase, please feel free to contact the project manager, Sandra Fife at 503-230-3678. You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the "Aeneas Creek Spring," "Ninemile Creek Lower," or "Wanacut Creek Upper" land acquisitions.

Sincerely,

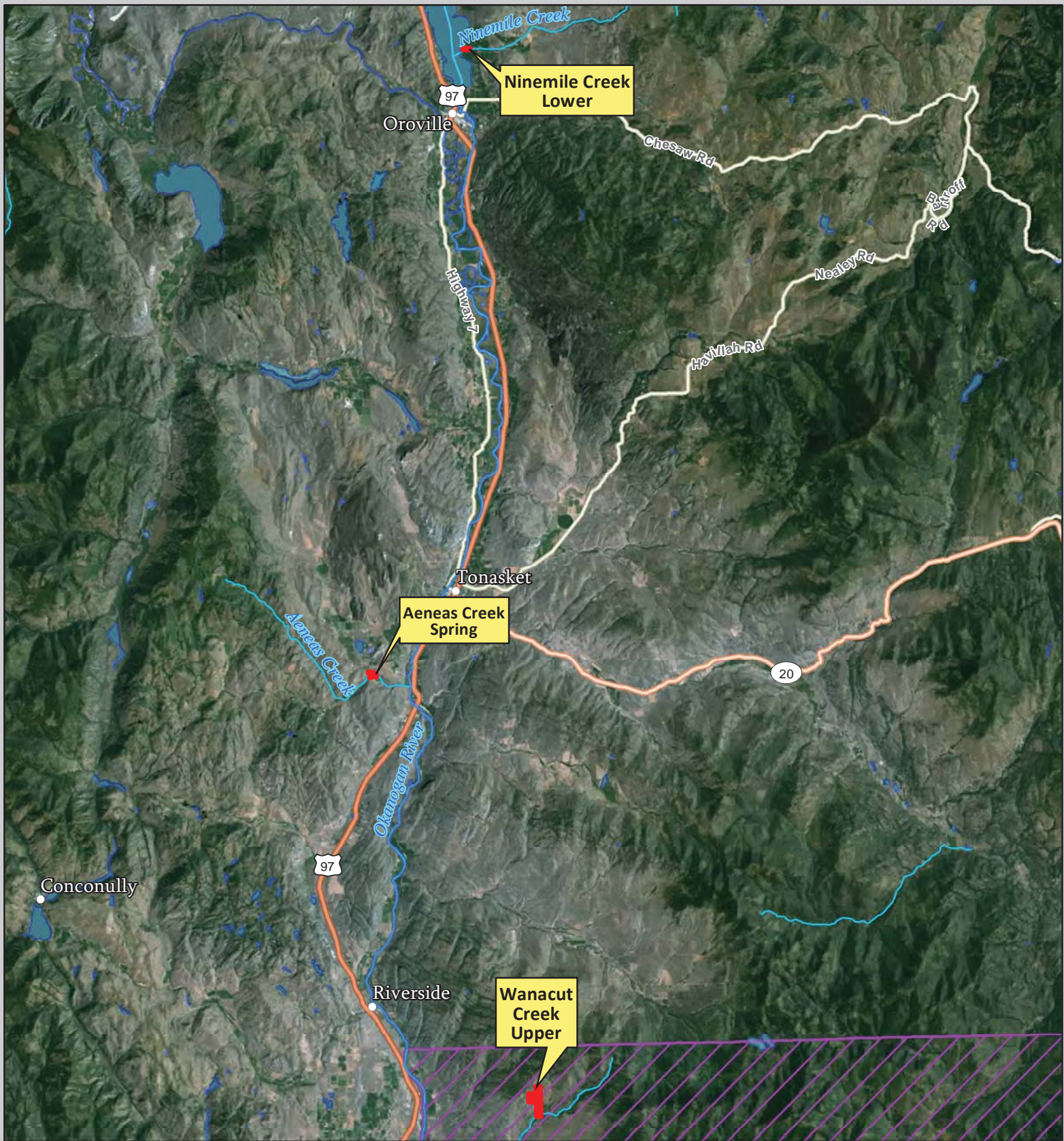
*/s/ Ted Gresh*

Ted Gresh

Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

Enclosures: Vicinity Maps





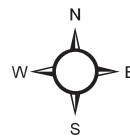
# OSHIP Land Acquisitions Location Map

Okanogan County, WA

- Subject Properties
- Colville Reservation

0 2½ 5 10  
Mile

12/3/2013







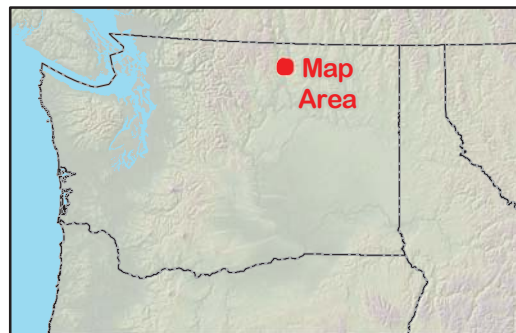
## Aeneas Creek Spring Property Acquisition Public Notification Map

Aeneas Lake and Tonasket Quadrangles  
Okanogan County, WA  
(14 Acres)

 Subject Property

0 0.5 1 Mile

12/3/2013







# Ninemile Creek Lower Location Map

Okanogan County, WA  
(5 Acres)

 Subject Property

0 0.2 0.4 0.8  
Mile

12/3/2013

